

1. 941  
S8 Ag 8  
cap 2



SUBJECT	CONTENTS
WINTER WHEAT AND RYE	1
GENERAL SITUATION	2
PIG CROP REPORT	2
FLUE-CURED TOBACCO OUTLOOK	2
COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES	2
CERTIFIED SEED POTATO PRODUCTION	2
MILK PRODUCTION	3
PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS	3
FEED SUPPLIES	3
FARM CASH INCOME	4
1948 ACREAGE PROBLEMS	4
EGG PRODUCTION	4
HATCHERY PRODUCTION	4
MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY	4

JANUARY 1, 1948 GENERAL FARM PRODUCTION

JANUARY DIGESTS

*Year ends with first period of favorable Fall weather since mid-September*

*Nation planted record winter wheat crop. This State's wheat acreage is down at least 10 percent from Fall of 1946.*

*North Carolina's Fall pig crop is 9 percent larger than in 1946; total pig crop for 1947 was about 8 percent greater than in 1946.*

*Reduced flue-cured tobacco acreage for 1948 is still greater than in pre-war years.*

*A record crop of certified seed Irish potatoes was produced in the Nation during 1947.*

*The U. S. index of prices paid by farmers, including interest and taxes, reaches a record high of 245.*

*Prices paid for feeds are stable to higher than for a month ago.*

*Total January 1 farm stocks of 5 grain crops (corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye) largest of record for this State.*

*North Carolina's farm cash income for first ten months of 1947 was lower than for same period in 1946.*

*The U. S. farm cash income is estimated at 30 billion dollars for the year 1947.*

*North Carolina's production of eggs in 1947 was higher than in 1946.*

IMPORTANT

This report is based on conditions as of the stated date and does not necessarily reflect any changes in crop prospects that may have occurred after that date. Any changes that occur afterwards will be covered in the following month's forecast.

WINTER WHEAT AND RYE  
NORTH CAROLINA

Preliminary reports from North Carolina farmers indicate that 472,000 acres of wheat have been or will be sown for harvest in the summer of 1948. If these plans materialize, the acreage sown for 1948 will be 10 percent less than the 524,000 acres sown in the fall of 1946, and 8 percent less than the 10-year (1936-45) average of 512,000 acres. A production of 6,136,000 bushels is forecast on the basis of reported condition of crop on December 1. This is approximately 27 percent less than the 8,449,000 bushels produced in 1947, and 5 percent below the 10-year average production for the State.

Fall seedings of rye in North Carolina primarily for coverage totaled 125,000 acres--14 percent smaller than the 145,000 acres sown in the Fall of 1946, and 29 percent smaller than the 10-year average.

UNITED STATES

Acreage for winter wheat seeded for all purposes is estimated at 58,648,000 acres. This record seeded acreage resulted from a substantial increase in acreage in the North Central States, continuation of seeding after mid-November in much of the Great Plains, and further expansion of acreage in Inter-mountain and Pacific Coast States. The 1948 winter wheat production is forecast at 839 million bushels as of December 1.

GENERAL SITUATION IMPROVED

The beginning of the New Year found many North Carolina farmers considerably behind schedule in their farming operations, after experiencing one of the most unfavorable Falls of record. For the State, as a whole, the last two weeks of December were more favorable for general farming work than any similar period since mid-September. Even so, wet soil conditions still prevailed on January 1 over a large portion of the State. By the first of the month soils had dried out to a workable state in most mountain counties and on high fields in many piedmont counties. However, in Eastern Carolina, soils continued too wet for working. Temperatures during the month of December were generally favorable, although freezes occurred in most areas.

Winter sown small grain crops were not faring too well because of the extended period of wet weather and extremely late planting dates. Small grains as a whole, were in only fair condition on January 1.

Pastures, generally, were in fair to good condition. Harvesting of the record 1947 corn crop was around 75-85 percent complete for the state as a whole. Harvesting is further advanced in Piedmont and Mountain sections than in the Coastal Plains districts. In eastern areas many farmers have not been able to complete the harvesting of soybeans, peanuts and cotton - due to weather conditions.

SOWS INTENDED FOR FARROWING IN SPRING OF 1948  
DOWN 11 PERCENT FOR NATION AS A WHOLE





## PIG CROP REPORT

### NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina farmers produced a pig crop of 698,000 head in the Fall season of 1947. This is 58,000 head, or 9 percent more than was produced in the Fall of 1946, and is the third largest Fall pig crop of record. An average of 6.4 pigs per litter, the same as last year, were obtained from 109,000 sows. The annual total number of pigs saved in the 1947 season amounted to 1,529,000 head - 8 percent larger than the 1,421,000 pigs saved in 1946, and 10 percent larger than the 10-year (1936-45) average of 1,395,000.

Farmers' reports on breeding intentions for the Spring of 1948 indicate that 134,000 sows are to farrow during the six months period ending June 1, 1948. This is the same number as farrowed in the Spring of 1946 but 9 percent larger than the 10-year average of Spring farrowings numbering 123,000 sows.

### UNITED STATES

The 1947 national pig crop totaled 84,138,000 head - an increase of about 1 percent over last year. The Spring pig crop was only slightly larger than the previous year; however, the recent Fall pig crop of 31,352,000 head was 3 percent larger than for the Fall of 1946.

Reports on breeding intentions for the Nation indicate about 7,732,000 sows to farrow in the spring of 1948 - a decrease of 11 percent from last year. This would be 8 percent below the 10-year average and the smallest number of sows farrowing in the Spring since 1938. If the intentions for Spring farrowing materialize, and the average number of pigs saved per litter is about the same as the 10-year average, the 1948 Spring pig crop would be about 48 million head - 9 percent smaller than in 1947, and 7 percent below the 10-year average.

SOWS FARROWING, PIGS SAVED AND PIGS PER LITTER  
DECEMBER 1, 1947

ITEM	10-YEAR AVERAGE 1936-45	1946	1947	1948 IN- TENDED
- THOUSAND HEAD -				
NORTH CAROLINA				
SPRING:				
SOWS FARROWED...	123	126	134	134
PIGS SAVED.....	749	781	831	-
*PIGS PER LITTER.	6.1	6.2	6.2	-
FALL:				
SOWS FARROWED...	103	100	109	-
PIGS SAVED.....	646	640	698	-
*PIGS PER LITTER.	6.3	6.4	6.4	-
ANNUAL TOTAL:				
PIGS SAVED.....	1,395	1,421	1,529	-
UNITED STATES				
SPRING:				
SOWS FARROWED...	8,398	8,137	8,649	7,732
PIGS SAVED.....	51,871	52,574	52,786	48,000
*PIGS PER LITTER.	6.18	6.46	6.10	1/-
FALL:				
SOWS FARROWED...	5,268	4,713	4,908	-
PIGS SAVED.....	33,332	30,548	31,352	-
PIGS PER LITTER.	6.32	6.48	6.46	-
ANNUAL TOTAL:				
PIGS SAVED.....	85,203	82,940	84,138	-

\* Pigs per Litter-- Actual Number.  
1/ Average number of pigs per litter (1936-45) used to compute round number of Spring pigs indicated for 1948.

## REDUCED FLUE-CURED TOBACCO ACREAGE STILL GREATER THAN IN PRE-WAR YEARS

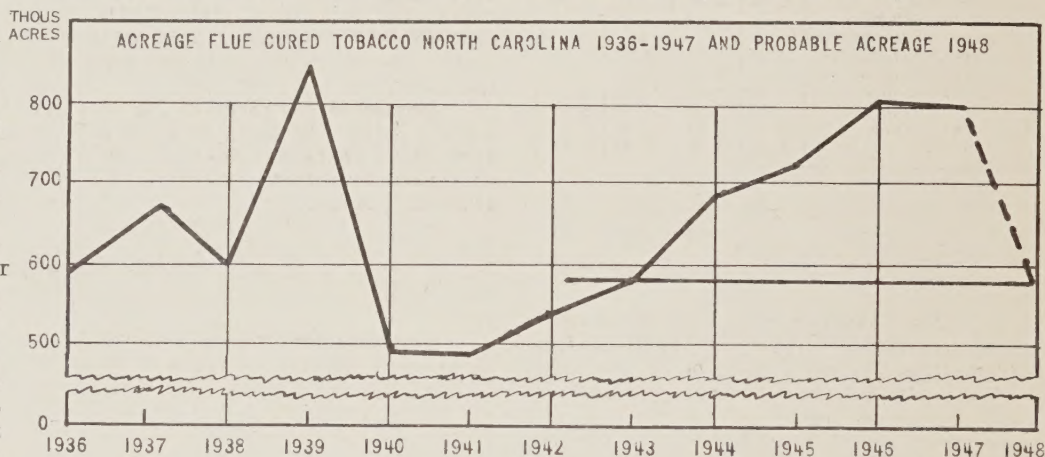
Although tobacco growers are faced with a 27.52 percent reduction in Flue-cured tobacco quotas in 1948 it is well to keep in mind that the acreage allotments this season will still be as much as was harvested in 1943 and more than in the years immediately prior to the war. As shown by the accompanying chart the probable acreage for 1948 will be the lowest in recent years. This probable acreage for 1948 is derived by applying the 27.52 percent reduction in quotas to the acreage harvested in 1947, and assuming that the acreage harvested in 1948 will have the relationship to quotas as in 1947. The acreage was increased every year from 1941 through 1946, and only a slight reduction was shown last year.

Even though the acreage of tobacco increased greatly during the war, total production advanced at a more rapid rate. This is attributed to a continued increase in yield per acre. Farmers are using more fertilizer per acre and practicing better cultural methods than in previous years. Also this increase in tobacco yield is in

line with the general upward trend in yields for all crops grown in the State. No doubt the various Agricultural Programs have had an important bearing upon this trend and are responsible for much of the improvement in soil productivity.

Should growers in the State plant about the same proportion of their tobacco allotment as in 1947 and the yield per acre be around the average of 1946 and 1947, the 1948 crop would be around 650 million pounds, or about 20 percent more than in 1943 when the acreage was about the same as the probable acreage for harvest in 1948.

By reducing the tobacco acreage around 27.5 percent there will be released from tobacco production about 220,000 acres of land available for other crops. The United States Department of Agriculture is calling for more acreage to be devoted to cotton and all grain crops. Weather during the fall was unfavorable for sowing small grains, therefore, it is likely that much of the acreage will be devoted to Spring Planted crops.



## COMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES PLANTING INTENTIONS FOR 1948 CROP

Producers of commercial early Irish Potatoes in North Carolina indicate that they expect to plant 28,400 acres in 1948, or 2 percent less than was harvested in 1947. North Carolina produced 29,000 acres of commercial early Irish potatoes last year.

For other states which normally sell their potatoes about the same time as North Carolina, the 1948 intended acreage is about 6 percent more than last year's acreage.

COMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES  
INTENDED PLANTINGS FOR 1948

STATE AND GROUP	ACREAGE		YIELD	
	1937-46 AVERAGE	1947	1948 INTENDED	1937-46 AVERAGE
- ACRES -				
L. SPRING:				
N. CAROLINA	35,650	29,000	28,400	144
CALIFORNIA	47,500	62,000	72,000	322
LOUISIANA	25,500	16,000	15,000	70
MISS.	4,190	2,500	1,000	86
ALABAMA	24,990	18,700	18,000	117
GEORGIA	2,890	1,800	1,800	116
S. CAROLINA	14,100	11,000	11,000	141
TEXAS	9,020	7,400	7,700	62
OKLAHOMA	4,230	700	700	92
ARKANSAS	5,390	3,700	4,100	88
TENNESSEE	4,480	4,400	4,900	113
GROUP TOTAL	177,940	157,200	164,600	168
				239

## CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES

The national production of certified seed potatoes in 1947 was 44,284,618 bushels compared with 42,406,884 bushels in 1946 and the 1936-45 average of 20,324,292 bushels. There were 162,018 acres of certified seed that passed final inspection in 1947 which was 1.2 percent lower than in 1946.

Cobbler production totaled 10,434,253 bushels, with Maine producing 3,925,290 bushels. Minnesota 3,413,255 bushels, and North Dakota 2,186,480 bushels.

Canadian production of Cobblers amounted to 11,083,052 bushels in 1947 compared with 10,517,379 bushels in 1946.

## MILK PRODUCTION

Monthly milk production per cow continued at an all-time high for December 1947, and is estimated at 305 pounds per cow in North Carolina's milk herd. There was a slight reduction of 10 pounds per cow from the November estimate; however, this decline is seasonal. Total milk production during the month is estimated at 108 million pounds--3 million pounds larger than that for 1946, but less than December production during 1943 and 1944 due to reduced number of milk cows on farms.



## FEED PRICES MOVE UP

Prices paid by North Carolina farmers for feeds on December 15, 1947, continued to reflect the tight situation in grain and feed supplies. Prices paid for middlings, corn meal, mixed dairy feed of 16% protein and laying mash remained the same as a month earlier. Mixed dairy feeds of 18 and 20 percent protein advanced 5 cents per hundred pounds. Bran, cottonseed meal, scratch feed and tankage each moved up 10 cents per hundred pounds over the price of a month ago.

United States feed prices moved up sharply, except for a 5 cent increase for middlings and a 3 cent drop for tankage.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS DECEMBER 15, 1947  
WITH COMPARISONS

COMMODITY PER HUNDRED WEIGHT	N. CAROLINA		U. S.	
	DEC. 15 1947	NOV. 15 1947	DEC. 15 1947	NOV. 15 1947
- DOLLARS -				
BRAN.....	4.40	4.30	3.93	3.77
MIDDINGS.....	4.70	4.70	4.29	4.24
CORN MEAL.....	6.20	6.20	5.46	5.19
COTTONSEED MEAL.....	4.55	4.45	5.28	5.07
MIXED DAIRY FEED:				
16% PROTEIN.....	4.45	4.45	4.57	4.43
18% PROTEIN.....	4.80	4.75	4.82	4.66
20% PROTEIN.....	4.90	4.85	5.00	4.81
LAYING MASH.....	5.80	5.80	5.53	5.40
SCRATCH FEED.....	5.70	5.60	5.55	5.31
TANKAGE.....	7.30	7.20	7.34	7.37

## DECEMBER INDEX

The December "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at 274 was 1 point below the index of a month earlier. However, all indexes for individual groups of products showed increases except for tobacco. The tobacco index at 311 percent of the 1909-14 average was 4 points below the November 1947 index but 36 points higher than the index of a year ago. The drop in the December tobacco index accounts for the slight drop in the "All Farm Products" index. The greatest increases in indexes were reflected by cotton and cottonseed and poultry products. The ratio of North Carolina prices received to United States prices paid was 112 on December 15. This ratio was 2 percent lower than a month earlier and 5 percent lower than in December 1946.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS  
(N.C. PRICES RECEIVED 1909-14 = 100 PERCENT)

COMMODITY	DEC. 15 1947	NOV. 15 1947	DEC. 15 1946	DEC. 15 1945	DEC. 15 1944
	1947	1947	1946	1945	1944
N.C. INDEX NUMBERS					
ALL FARM PRODUCTS	274	275	249	220	226
TOBACCO.....	311	315	275	384	331
COTTON & COTTONSEED	272	258	256	181	167
GRAINS.....	251	246	197	156	157
MEAT ANIMALS.....	363	353	320	225	198
POULTRY.....	321	308	283	268	254
DAIRY PRODUCTS.....	241	238	231	180	173
MISCELLANEOUS.....	235	231	222	222	196
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID*	112	114	117	125	132
U.S. INDEX NUMBERS					
PRICES RECEIVED....	301	287	264	207	200
PRICES PAID.....					
INTEREST, TAXES...	245	241	212	176	171
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID..	123	119	125	118	117

\* Ratio of N. C. prices received to U. S. paid.

COMPARISON OF UNITED STATES PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND PARITY PRICES \*

COMMODITY	PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS		PARITY OR COMPARABLE PRICES		ACTUAL PRICE AS PERCENTAGE OF PARITY	
	DEC. 15 1947	NOV. 15 1947	DEC. 15 1947	NOV. 15 1947	DEC. 15 1947	NOV. 15 1947
- DOLLARS -						
COTTON, PER LB.....	.3406	.3187	.3038	.2988	112	107
WHEAT, PER BU.....	2.79	2.74	2.17	2.13	129	129
CORN, PER BU.....	2.37	2.19	1.57	1.55	151	141
OATS, PER BU.....	1.18	1.09	.978	.962	121	113
BARLEY, PER BU.....	2.00	1.87	1.52	1.49	132	126
RYE, PER BU.....	2.45	2.49	1.76	1.74	139	143
BEEF CATTLE, PER CWT.....	19.80	18.80	13.30	13.10	149	144
HOGS, PER CWT.....	24.90	24.20	17.80	17.50	140	138
LAMBS, PER CWT.....	21.30	20.80	14.40	14.20	148	146
CHICKENS, PER LB.....	.252	.249	.279	.275	90	91
EGGS, PER DOZ.....	.587	.534	.632	.622	93	86
MILK (WHOLESALE) PER CWT..	5.02	4.90	4.29	4.25	117	115

\* Parity means a price for the farmer's product which will give it an exchange value for things the farmers needs to buy equal to that in a specified base period (usually 1909-14).

## PRICES RECEIVED

Prices received by North Carolina farmers for the month ending December 15, 1947, showed moderate increases for most products. Only tobacco (type 11), rye, all baled, and all loose hay showed prices lower than on November 15. Prices received for cottonseed, retail milk, peanuts and wool remained at November's level. Cotton increased two cents per pound over the average a month earlier.

Average prices received for eggs rose 3 cents during the month to a new all-time high of 69 cents per dozen. Egg prices have shown consistent increases each month since last April.

Butter and butterfat were each 1 cent a pound higher than at mid-November. Prices received for both of these products have risen consistently since June of this year.

Lespedeza seed prices averaged \$13.30 at mid-December--an increase of \$2.40 per hundred over the November 15 level, reaching an all-time high in prices received by growers for this commodity.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS DECEMBER 15, 1947  
WITH COMPARISONS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA		U. S.
		DEC. 15 1947	NOV. 15 1947	DEC. 15 1947
- DOLLARS -				
TOBACCO:				
TYPE 11.....	Lb.	.35	.398	-
TYPE 31.....	Lb.	.447	-	-
CORN.....	Bu.	2.10	2.07	2.37
WHEAT.....	Bu.	2.92	2.83	2.79
OATS.....	Bu.	1.26	1.24	1.18
BARLEY.....	Bu.	2.05	1.93	2.00
RYE.....	Bu.	2.80	2.85	2.45
COTTON.....	Lb.	.335	.315	.341
COTTONSEED.....	Ton	78.00	78.00	94.80
HOGS.....	CWT.	24.00	23.40	24.90
BEEF CATTLE.....	CWT.	16.50	16.00	19.80
VEAL CALVES.....	CWT.	21.70	21.20	22.30
SHEEP.....	CWT.	9.00	8.70	8.62
LAMBS.....	CWT.	21.00	20.30	21.30
CHICKENS.....	Lb.	.28	.27	.252
EGGS.....	Doz.	.69	.66	.587
MILK: (WHSE).....	CWT.	5.60	5.50	5.02
RETAIL.....	Qt.	.20	.20	.186
BUTTER.....	Lb.	.62	.61	.73
BUTTERFAT.....	Lb.	.61	.60	.877
PEANUTS.....	Lb.	.11	.11	.101
SOYBEANS.....	Bu.	3.05	2.85	3.69
COWPEAS.....	Bu.	4.70	4.30	4.41
HAY, ALL LOOSE.....	Ton	29.30	29.50	18.10
HAY, ALL BALED.....	Ton	35.30	35.80	-
WOOL.....	Lb.	.49	.49	.409
POTATOES.....	Bu.	1.80	1.75	1.72
SWEET POTATOES.....	Bu.	2.00	1.95	2.04
APPLES, COMM'L.....	Bu.	2.60	2.50	2.28
LESPEDEZA SEED.....	Lb.	13.30	10.90	11.40

## UNITED STATES PRICES

Breaking all previous records, the index of prices received by farmers jumped 5 percent during the month that ended December 15 to 301 percent of the 1909-14 average. This is 4 percent above the previous high of 289 set in October, 1947. Meanwhile, the level of prices paid by farmers including interest and taxes reached a new record of 245 percent of the 1910-14 average, breaking the record set the previous month for the tenth time during 1947. The net result of these changes is a parity ratio of 123, still 8 percent below the record of 133 set in October 1946.

During 1947, the index of prices received ranged from 260 in January to 301 this month. This is 14 percent above December 15, 1946. The index of prices paid, including interest and taxes, was steadily higher each month except in May and July, and now stands 16 percent higher than a year ago. The 1947 average for both indexes is higher than any previous year. Prices received at 278 are 19 percent above 1946 level; and prices paid including interest and taxes at 231 are 20 percent above last year. The parity ratio fluctuated from a low of 118 to 124 and averaged 120 for the year.

## RECORD STOCKS OF GRAIN ON FARMS

Total stocks of corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye on North Carolina farms January 1 were at an all-time record--amounting to 56,587,000 bushels. This total was 20 percent above January 1, 1947, stocks and about 41 percent greater than the 10-year average.

North Carolina farmers held 49,483,000 bushels of corn on farms January 1, the largest stocks of record. This compares with 40,372,000 bushels on hand January 1, 1947, and the 10-year average of 35,310,000 bushels. Farm stocks of wheat on the first of the year totaled 2,619,000 bushels, compared with 2,081,000 bushels last year. This is the second largest January 1 stocks of wheat on record, being exceeded only by holdings on January 1, 1946. Farm stocks of oats were smaller than a year ago, but were considerably above average and the third largest of record. January 1 stocks of oats totaled 3,952,000 bushels, compared with 4,504,000 on January 1, 1947. Stocks of barley totaled 402,000 bushels with rye stocks amounting to 131,000 bushels. January 1 stocks of both barley and rye were considerably greater than on January 1, 1947 and above average.



## FARM REPORT

Issued monthly through the  
Crop Reporting Service at Raleigh

Frank Parker,  
Agricultural Statistician in charge

Representing the  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
W. P. Callander, Assistant Chief

and the  
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Division of Statistics  
W. Kerr Scott, Commissioner of Agriculture

FOR DISTRIBUTION PRIMARILY TO  
CROP REPORTERS AND AGRICULTURAL LEADERS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Raleigh, N. C.

Official Business

FORM BAE-A-148--6,000  
PERMIT NO. 1001

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300  
(PMGC)

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

JANUARY, 1948

FARM REPORT

PAGE 4

### NORTH CAROLINA'S FARM INCOME LOWER

Cash receipts from farm sales in North Carolina for the first ten months of 1947 totaled \$566,734,000 or 3 percent less than for the same period of 1946, according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Incomes from crops showed a rather substantial drop during the January to October (inclusive) period, while receipts from the sale of Livestock and Livestock products were around 22 percent greater than in the preceding year.

The decline in tobacco price was no doubt responsible for the drop in crop income while an increase in average prices received for livestock and their products contributed to the advance in livestock income during the ten-month period.

Income from crops during the January to October period of this year contributed 80 percent of the total farm income while in the same period of 1946 crops furnished 84 percent of the total farm income, excluding government payments.

### U. S. FARM INCOME TOTALS 30 BILLION DOLLARS

Cash receipts from farm marketings in 1947 are tentatively estimated at 30 billion dollars, 22 percent above last year. With Government payments at about 340 million dollars, cash receipts in 1947 will total around 30.3 billion dollars, 19 percent more than in 1946.

Government payments this year are 60 percent below those of 1946. The decline is due largely to the expiration of production payment programs for dairy products, beef cattle, sheep and lambs on June 30, 1946.

Gross Income in 1947, including home consumption and rental value of dwellings in addition to cash receipts, is estimated at 34.6 billion dollars. Production expense total about 16.6 billion dollars. The 18 billion dollars difference represents the realized net income of farm operators in 1947. All three of these preliminary estimates are about one-fifth over 1946.

The volume of farm marketing in the Nation in 1947 is estimated to be about 3 percent above 1946.

### 1948 ACREAGE PROBLEMS

North Carolina's tobacco quotas have been set at 72.5 percent of the 1947 acreage allotments, or 588,000 acres. This means that at least 220,000 acres must be diverted to other crops. These largely include feed crops, peanuts and cotton.

Fortunately, peanuts are not limited by quotas. Even a 25 percent increase in this crop would represent only about one-third of the acreage vacated by tobacco. Cotton can be increased by 20 percent and still leave much of the remaining idle tobacco land. However, over half of the cotton grown is in non-tobacco areas.

All small grains could not be planted last Fall (1947), and so greatly increased Spring oats acreage and other feed crops may result. These include soybeans, hays, potatoes, sorghums and corn.

Corn is becoming a good bet. With hybrid and better cultural methods, yields above 50 to 75 bushels per acre are not unusual.

### EGG PRODUCTION UP

Production of eggs on North Carolina farms totaled 46 million during December, compared with 45 million eggs for November this year. The monthly rate of lay per 100 layers is estimated at 564 eggs compared with 552 eggs per 100 layers during November. A total of 1,003,000,000 eggs were produced in the State during 1947 compared with 980,000,000 eggs for the year 1946.

### HATCHERY PRODUCTION

In North Carolina, November output of chicks by commercial hatcheries totaled 1,112,000 - slightly above that for the previous month but 4 percent less than for November a year ago. For the 11 months period, January - November, 1947, both inclusive, North Carolina hatcheries produced 35,099,000 chicks compared with 33,904,000 chicks for the same months in 1946.

### WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1947

Precipitation for the month was light for the season except in the extreme Southeastern section of the state where it was just slightly above normal. Following an extended period of above normal rainfall in the latter part of October and the wettest November on record, the relatively dry weather was welcomed by Agricultural interests. The temperature, too, was

slightly below average for the month but no excessively cold weather was experienced. Considerable cloudiness reduced the possible sunshine for the month. The only snowfall of consequence fell on Christmas day. This was confined mostly to the northwestern and mountain sections although small amounts were measured over most of the piedmont belt.

INCHES OF RAINFALL  
month of  
DECEMBER, 1947

